

University of Montana

## ScholarWorks at University of Montana

---

University of Montana News Releases, 1928,  
1956-present

University Relations

---

10-9-2007

### Federal official to announce national native trauma center at UM

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases>

**Let us know how access to this document benefits you.**

---

#### Recommended Citation

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "Federal official to announce national native trauma center at UM" (2007). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 20657. <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases/20657>

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the University Relations at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@mso.umt.edu](mailto:scholarworks@mso.umt.edu).



The University of  
**Montana**

UNIVERSITY RELATIONS • MISSOULA, MT 59812 • 406-243-2522 • FAX: 406-243-4520

---

## **NEWS RELEASE**

---

Oct. 9, 2007

**CORRECTION:** A previous version of this release had the wrong title for Power. Please use this corrected version.

**Contact:** Rick van den Pol, director, UM Division of Educational Research and Service, 406-243-6756, rick.vandenpol@mso.umt.edu; Matt Taylor, DERS associate director, 406-243-5367, matt.taylor@mso.umt.edu.

### **FEDERAL OFFICIAL TO ANNOUNCE NATIONAL NATIVE TRAUMA CENTER AT UM**

#### **MISSOULA -**

A. Kathryn Power, director of the federal Center for Mental Health Services, will visit The University of Montana on Thursday, Oct. 11, to help launch a first-of-its-kind national trauma center for American Indian children.

Power will describe the new National Native Children's Trauma Center during a 3:10 p.m. announcement in Gallagher Business Building Room L14.

UM received a four-year, \$2.4 million grant from the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration to fund the center, which will be operated by the Division of Education Research and Service (DERS) in UM's School of Education.

After the announcement, Power will hold a guest lecture and question-and-answer session from 3:30 to 5 p.m. hosted by the UM psychology department and DERS. The Department of Psychology, alongside DERS, is a co-host of the grant. The public is encouraged to attend both the announcement and lecture.

-more-



Power's agency is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Her center provides national leadership in mental health promotion, mental illness prevention, and the development and dissemination of effective mental health services.

In 2005 Power received the U.S. Award for Distinguished Service for spearheading the Federal mental Health Transformation Team – an interdepartmental coalition that produced the first-ever Federal Action Agenda for Mental Health Transformation.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration recently awarded 15 grants worth \$28 million to organizations that help children and adolescents deal with traumatic experiences. The UM award creates the only center in the federal National Child Traumatic Stress Network that targets working with children and their parents in Indian Country.

UM already had a 4-year-old state center, the Montana Center for the Investigation and Treatment of Childhood Trauma, which had success training teachers and guidance counselors at reservation schools to treat students exhibiting signs of traumatic stress. DERS Director Rick van den Pol said the new grant allowed them to upgrade the state center to a national one.

“I think our proposal was successful because the University has demonstrated leadership across the country in respect to higher education and Native American issues,” van den Pol said. “Our new center will provide technical assistance and training, and our charge is to participate in a network of 48 other state and national centers, as well as local providers.”

National statistics suggest one out of every four U.S. children face a significant traumatic event before age 16. DERS Associate Director Matt Taylor said there already is a



101007trma--3

waiting list of tribes inviting the new center to offer its services in their reservation schools or police forces.

“When we have a request for services, we offer training for counselors, psychologists and police officers in how to do these psychological interventions,” Taylor said. “And then once we leave, we provide them with ongoing support, mentorship and data collections, which help them run clinical groups after we are gone.”

The new center will be co-directed by Darrell Stolle and Marilyn Zimmerman, who was raised on Montana’s Fort Peck Indian Reservation.

“Indian people have strengths and resiliencies, but there also are a lot of things that families experience on an ongoing basis today – from car accidents and murders to chronic diseases and suicides,” Zimmerman said. “Our center addresses a need for tribal communities to create trauma-informed services, so the individuals and families in these reservation communities can be healed and restored.”

###

CBS  
Local, dailies, tribal  
101007trma